

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 09/737,547
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q62184

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants have extensively amended the specification of the instant application. Due to the extensive nature of the present amendments, as well as the amendments introduced by the December 18, 2000 Preliminary Amendment, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(3), Applicants request that the specification be deleted in its entirety, and be replaced with the Substitute Specification attached hereto. The Substitute Specification complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.52(a)-(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(b) and no new matter has been added to the Substitute Specification. The Substitute Specification also includes all the amendments presented in the Preliminary Amendment filed on December 18, 2000. Applicants are also providing a red-line version of the Substitute Specification, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3) and 1.125(b)(2). Entry of the Substitute Specification is requested.

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Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following new Abstract of the Disclosure.

A method to divide upstream timeslots in a multiple access system that couples a line terminator via a tree-like network to a plurality of network terminators and the line terminator distributes downstream data packets to the plurality of network terminators. The line terminator includes a grant, associated with one of the network terminators, in the downstream packet. A network terminal, upon recognizing its associated grant in the downstream packet, transmits data in a packet placed in a predefined upstream timeslot. Depending on the type of line terminator (high or low order) and the placement of the grant in the downstream packet, the data transmitted by the network terminator, in response to the grant recognition, is placed in a high or low order timeslot for transmission to the line terminator.